

INFORMATION BULLETIN

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT

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TO: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: LWIA ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES—
SEPTEMBER 6, 2002

The minutes and revised agenda from the Local Workforce Investment Area (LWIA) Advisory Committee conference call on Friday, September 6, 2002, are attached for your review and information. Please ensure that the minutes are provided to the appropriate staff.

If you have any questions regarding the minutes, please contact James Scholl at (916) 657-4610.

/S/ BILL BURKE
Assistant Deputy Director
Workforce Development Branch

Attachments

LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA ADVISORY CONFERENCE CALL

Friday, September 6, 2002

Agenda

10:00 a.m.	Welcome/Hot Topics	Bill Burke, Workforce Investment Division (WID)
	California Workforce Investment Board (State Board) Report	David Militzer, State Board
.	WIA Reauthorization	Michael Evashenk, WID
	Performance Renegotiations	Liz Clingman, WID
	ELearning	Steve Saxton, WID
	Open Discussion	
	Adjourn	

LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES

Friday, September 6, 2002

Welcome/Agenda Building/Hot Topics—Bill Burke, WID

- Department of Labor (DOL) Review—The DOL reviewed the State-level Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and Wagner-Peyser functions and also performed a review of some of the Local Workforce Investment Areas (LWIA). The specific areas of concern that DOL raised were: 1) the State should be conducting more oversight and monitoring of LWIAs from WIA programs for compliance; 2) the State should provide more technical assistance to those areas that weren't meeting local performance measures; 3) the State should provide additional assistance to areas that have high concentrations of eligible youth; 4) the actual composition of the California Workforce Investment Board (State Board) membership was a concern; 5) the State should provide more oversight and monitoring of youth activities; 6) the State was not reporting fiscally on an accrual basis; and 7) in Wagner-Peyser Job Service activities, the Employment Development Department (EDD) wasn't doing the appropriate work test and re-employment of Unemployment Insurance (UI) claimants.
- Waivers—The DOL's list of approved waiver requests from other states has been released. The State is requesting advice on areas where the local partners would want to pursue waivers for California. Tim Rainey of the California Workforce Association (CWA) will take the lead in gathering the LWIAs' input and forward those to the State. The obvious State-level waivers are 1) subsequent eligibility requirements and 2) increase the amount of the transfer authority between adult and dislocated worker. All waiver requests must go through the Governor's office for approval and have to be modified into the State plan. The State Board will work with EDD in terms of finalizing the recommendations. With CWA, the LWIAs, and the State partners all working together on this project, we have the opportunity to provide additional flexibility for the WIA program.
- Diego Haro's Appointment—Diego Haro has been appointed as the Deputy Director for the Workforce Development Branch. He may attend some of the Advisory Committee meetings as well as the December 13 Quarterly Meeting in San Diego.
- Rescission—Bob Hermsmeier, WID. We received requests from all but 16 LWIAs regarding rescissions. The rescission took back about \$14 million of LWIA funding from the dislocated worker account. To mitigate the effects of the rescission, the State attempted to determine the extent of the need to backfill lost funds and replace those funds in the LWIAs from the 25 percent dislocated worker account. Several LWIAs requested more money than was rescinded. We will not be able to approve requests for any amount beyond the amount rescinded from a LWIA. Approval to provide these additional assistance funds is still pending in the State's clearance process.

- **One-Stop Operating Systems (OSOS) Development**—There are three consortia operating throughout the country doing OSOS development under sponsorship of the DOL. The DOL put a lot of money into the development of OSOS that basically does most, if not all, of the participant activities the Job Training Automation (JTA) does, and also provides some case management components. The State needs to evaluate these systems to determine if they will meet our needs, including the degree of flexibility that is needed in California. The three systems are America's Job Link, OSOS, and the Mid-Atlantic Consortium. They have been government-developed, which has the potential for simplifying our procurement process. One of the reasons we have not been able to move forward on projects is because of the complexities of the State's procurement processes if we use private vendors. The DOL will allow states to take the programming code and modify it for the states' purposes.

Currently, we have an obsolete system addressing compliance needs. The short-term approach will focus on how to improve the accessibility of the JTA system. In the long run, we need a system that has more comprehensive capabilities than JTA to meet our compliance needs and has the flexibility to integrate with existing local systems. We intend to meet with some of the local staff to talk about these systems. This is not a decision we have any intention of making in isolation.

- **Annual Report to DOL**—In the Annual Report to DOL, we want to acknowledge LWIAs' success stories. This would be beneficial to both the State and the local partners in that it markets California's achievements for DOL and Congress. It could also connect to the goals in the strategic plan and the Governor's interest in special initiatives.

State Board Report—David Militzer, State Board

The next State Board meeting will be held on September 19, 2002, in San Jose. The agenda for that meeting can be found at the State Board Web site. Staff will be making three recommendations to the State Board with regard to One-Stop Certification. These recommendations concern 1) developing standards, 2) a validation vehicle, and 3) developing incentives. The certification is voluntary. The State certification process will support both local efforts and systems while providing technician assistance and incentives.

A LWIA would be able to develop and utilize its own certification process. The State would certify local systems and each local system would develop their own process for certifying their One-Stops which might be a simple designation process. The LWIAs must have some process and some means of at least applying the standards that we'll be using at the State level.

This will result in a statewide branding process so that all California residents can clearly understand and identify One-Stops. There will be some level of consistency in the One-Stops that will be supported on a statewide level.

If the Board approves these three policy proposals, a marketing workgroup will be created that will include LWIA input, including how best to interface a State logo with a national logo and with 50 other local logos.

WIA Reauthorization—Michael Evashenk, WID

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) held approximately 12 forums from March through May. There are some good summaries of the comments on the DOL/ETA Web site. The ETA is developing a strategy for working with Congress based upon all the feedback from the forums. Elaine Chao and Emily DeRocco will meet with representatives from the White House to lay out the strategy for WIA Reauthorization. The ETA plans to present the strategies in a white paper. This will identify how ETA will work with Congress to develop legislation reauthorizing the WIA. If California can come up with a statewide State/local position paper on some key areas that need to be changed in the reauthorization, it could have a significant impact in Washington. The National Governor's Association (NGA) has a policy paper out on this, which provides some basic reauthorization principles.

Performance Renegotiations—Liz Clingman, WID

California has exhausted our options in terms of renegotiating with DOL for Program Year (PY) 2002-2003 performance levels. An information bulletin will soon go out to the system and show each LWIA's final numbers for this year. In most cases, the State will still accept the amount negotiated with the LWIA. If we find mid-year that the State's performance is at the risk for PY 2002-2003, the State may attempt to renegotiate with DOL.

California needs to establish a workgroup to discuss how the State will meet the credential measures. The State will fail the older youth credential measure this year.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) met with seven to eight agencies that have training programs and said they will be instituting common performance measures. There will be common measures for adult and youth training activities, cutting across WIA, Job Corps, Job Service, Migrant Seasonal Farmworkers, and Perkins Adult ED. Also, entered employment, retention in employment, and wage gain will be tracked. There will also be an efficiency measure, which is a cost participant measure. The efficiency measure will be participants at the State level. The numerator will be any participant reported by the State in any way during the year. The numerator is the number of participants in the system. The denominator will be whatever dollars appropriated by Congress for that program during the year, not the amount spent, not the amount obligated, not anything else but the dollars appropriated by congress. The OMB is trying to keep this as simple and high-level as possible. If universal access is the numerator, the percentage will be way down. There will be some youth measures that will be slightly different because youth outcomes are not consistent among all programs for receipt of credential, entered employment, returning to school, or moving onto higher education, and self-sufficiency.

eLearning—Steve Saxton, WID

The State asked the Advisory Board to share their experiences and perspectives on the value of Web-based eLearning applications. After discussion, it was agreed to create an eLearning workgroup, which would look at developing a pilot project. This workgroup will include members from LWIAs coordinated through CWA, EDD, and the State Board.